

Welcome from the Chief of Police

On behalf of the
Harrisonburg
Police

Department,
I would like to
welcome you to
Harrisonburg
during this
exciting time in
your life. The

mission of the police department is to
ensure the safety of all of the citizens of
Harrisonburg in a professional manner.

It is my experience that the vast majority
of college students are law abiding people
who want to further their education.

Unfortunately, some students are involved
with illegal activities such as alcohol and
noise violations. As a police department, we
would like to provide factual information
to help prevent poor decision making and
unsafe behaviors. Thank you and I hope
you have a safe and successful year.

—Colonel D.G. Harper



Harrisonburg City Laws & Ordinances

Drunk in Public—Code 16-7-33

If any person profanely curses or swears or be drunk in public, he shall be guilty of a Class 4 Misdemeanor.

Open Container of Alcohol & Drinking in Public—Code 16-8-51

If any person shall take a drink of alcoholic beverage or shall tender a drink thereof to another whether accepted or not, at or in any public place he shall be guilty of a Class 4 Misdemeanor.

It shall be unlawful for any person to possess an open container, cup, can, glass or bottle containing an alcoholic beverage in any city park or playground or on any public street in the city and or in any area open to the general public.

Noise Ordinance—Code 16-10-6

General Prohibition. No person shall create any unreasonably loud, disturbing and unnecessary noise in the city or noise of such a character, intensity and duration as to be detrimental to the life or health of any person or to unreasonably disturb or annoy the quiet, comfort or repose of any person.

Commonwealth of Virginia Laws

Underage Possession of Alcohol

No person to whom an alcoholic beverage may not lawfully be sold shall purchase or possess any alcoholic beverage. Any person found guilty of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 Misdemeanor; upon conviction, such person's license to operate a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth may be suspended for a period of not more than one year.

Keg Laws

The purchaser shall sign a statement that the purchaser is 21 years of age; does not intend to allow persons under 21 years of age to consume the alcoholic beverages purchased, and that the purchaser will not remove or obliterate the keg registration tag affixed to the keg or allow its removal or obliteration.

No person shall remove, alter, deface, or obliterate the registration seal affixed to a keg. If any non licensee is in possession of a keg containing alcoholic beverages, and which keg does not bear the registration seal, or upon which keg the registration seal has been altered defaced or obliterated, the container and its contents shall be deemed to be contraband and subject to seizure and forfeiture.

Punishments

Class 1 Misdemeanor

Confinement in jail for not more than twelve months and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both.

Class 4 Misdemeanor

A fine of not more than \$250.